

FLP-D-12
24 April 1958

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

I. Authority

The Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications was established in pursuance of paragraph 5 of NSCID-16 (7 March 1953) to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the implementation of that Directive. The Committee is composed of representatives of the IAC agencies and can invite other interested agencies to sit with it on matters which concern them. Chairmanship is provided by CIA.

II. Organization

Three subcommittees have been established which comprehend in general the responsibilities separately identified in the Directive and which are listed below. However, as the IAC had established in 1955 an Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Information Processing (AHIP) whose function covered all categories of intelligence source materials, the Reference Subcommittee was directed on 13 January 1956 to suspend further meetings and consolidate its function with AHIP as long as the latter continues in existence.

III. Responsibilities, Accomplishments and Objectives

A. PROCUREMENT

1. Responsibility: To assist the Director of Central Intelligence in insuring the coordination of the procurement of foreign language publications for intelligence purposes, it being understood that captured documents are excepted from this provision.

2. Projects Completed:

a. Preparation of a paper incorporating specific examples of the contribution overt publications have made to intelligence. With cooperation from the Exploitation Subcommittee and the research offices of the intelligence agencies, the State member of the Procurement Subcommittee prepared a paper (State Circular Airgram 1505, 14 August 1957, SECRET) sent to Embassy Moscow, as well as to Bucharest, Budapest, Prague and Warsaw. This paper specifically dealt with publications acquired and transmitted by procurement personnel at Embassy Moscow and cited specific examples of how the data was used to satisfy intelligence requirements.

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b. Provide personnel engaged in interrogation work with adequate requirements for information on foreign publications. A guide for use during interrogations was prepared by the Subcommittee with the advice of the staff of the DRC interrogation program, AFCIN, and Contact Division, CIA. The paper, specifically prepared with respect to need for Hungarian publications, was submitted in June 1957 to Contact Division, CIA, for incorporation into existing interrogation guides.

c. Establish a means and schedule for reporting by members concerning the scope and product of their procurement programs, including exchanges. Each of the monthly meetings held by the Subcommittee resulted in an exchange of information concerning procurement channels, availability of publications and procedures. As a result there was better coordination of requirements and closer cooperation among field collectors. Experts in the field of collection were brought in to attend meetings and gave the members the benefit of their advice and experience. These meetings are the medium for the members to be informed on the respective procurement programs.

d. Review the systems of reporting acquisitions by the member agencies and suggest improvements where needed. Continued to 1958.

3. Projects Planned:

a. To meet with primary collectors of foreign publications in the field, including representatives of the three Services and the Department of State. A Paris meeting is scheduled for mid-April 1958, to be chaired by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications. The full-time Publications Procurement Officers from London, Paris, Berlin and Cairo will be in attendance, together with representatives from State, CIA and USAFE (ATI). A similar program for the posts in the Far and Southeast Asian areas, together with a meeting of all full-time PPO's in the area, is scheduled for Fall, 1958.

b. To participate in procurement programs of the U.S. Government of potential value to intelligence (National Science Foundation, Department of Commerce/Office of Technical Services, etc.)

c. To establish a practical policy on the exchange-of-publications program as related to procurement.

d. To continue the program of evaluating overt publications for the benefit of the field collectors.

e. To review the systems of reporting acquisitions and want lists by the member agencies and suggest improvements where needed.

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B. EXPLOITATION

1. Responsibility: To assist the Director of Central Intelligence in insuring the coordination of the preparation and dissemination of English-language excerpts, summaries, abstracts, and compilations from foreign language publications.

2. Projects Completed:

a. U.S. Joint Publications Research Service. During the year, the Foreign Documents Division/CIA (FDD) established and commenced operations in contractual exploitation facilities under the nominal cover title of "U.S. Joint Publications Research Service" (USJPRS) in response to Subcommittee recommendations in 1956 for augmentation of facilities.

b. Program reviews. All reporting programs of FDD and its contractual facility, USJPRS, were reviewed and in response to the resulting recommendations FDD made adjustments so far as possible to comply with the needs expressed by the Subcommittee members. The Subcommittee surveyed the needs of the IAC agencies resulting from the dissolution of Joint Press Reading Service, Moscow, and termination of the contract for "Selections From the Soviet Press." The major requirements of the IAC agencies were met by the production of the FDD report "Survey of the Soviet Press." Additional requirements were absorbed by USJPRS.

c. Publications. Two surveys, "Foreign Publications Exploitation Survey, 1957" and "Foreign language Serial Publications Exploited by Foreign Documents Division" were completed and disseminated at the Subcommittee's request. In addition, a listing was issued incorporating the current FDD and USJPRS periodic reports in answer to the requirements of the community.

d. Coordination. Throughout the year the member agencies established closer liaison and entered bilateral arrangements with FDD in the interest of coordinating the work load with existing facilities and avoiding duplication.

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[redacted] of FDD made an extensive tour of the Far East to survey the overseas exploitation facilities in the area with a view to improving coordination between them and US facilities, and between each other. At year end, recommendations resulting from this trip were under study by Subcommittee members. Department of State arranged with [redacted] for closer coordination with FDD, and Department of the Army has arranged with 500th MIG, Tokyo, to supply a coordinated list of translations done by intelligence components in the Japan area to FDD on a periodic basis.

e. Reclassification of Reports. At the request of members, the Subcommittee considered the classification of certain FDD reports from the standpoint of need for dissemination. As a result of Subcommittee recommendations, FDD made the following classification adjustments:

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- a. "Annual Report on Crime in the USSR" from CONFIDENTIAL to FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
- b. "Weekly Information Report on Communist China" from CONFIDENTIAL to FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
- c. "Consolidated Translation Survey" from SECRET to CONFIDENTIAL.
- d. "IGY" information lifted from the CONFIDENTIAL "Scientific Information Report" and reported separately under FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

3. Project Planned:

- a. The Subcommittee plans to conduct periodic reviews for all exploitation programs during 1958, and will continue to take coordinating action for the avoidance of unnecessary duplication among exploitation activities of the intelligence community.
- b. Review the developing scientific exploitation facilities of the Department of the Air Force and their coordination with existing facilities.
- c. Review the development of coordination with the new project in the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, for scientific and technical exploitation of soviet publications.
- d. Complete surveys under way at year end on:
 - (1) Chinese scientific abstracts in the "Referativnyy Zhurnal."
 - (2) Volume of available biographic information on significant Western World scientific personalities.
 - (3) Feasibility of Army or Air Force facilities in the Far East covering Japanese science.

C. REFERENCE

- 1. Responsibility: To insure the coordination of IAC indexing and control measures which provide access by subject of foreign language publications.

2. Projects Completed:

- a. The Reference Subcommittee continued during 1957 to operate under the aegis of the IAC's Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Information Processing (AHIP) as directed by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications (ACFLP) on 13 January 1956.
- b. During 1957 AHIP took the following actions on matters relating to Reference Subcommittee responsibilities:

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(1) Issued a Guide to Intelligence Periodicals published at Headquarters. (WGULISP-R-1, 6 December 1957). The scope statement provided with each periodical title described open literature coverage wherever appropriate, e.g. as in the case of most FDD titles.

(2) Recommended standards for the citation of enclosures supplied with IAC information reports. Many enclosures consists of open literature and citation in the past has raised many identification and handling problems for reference personnel. By the end of the year, many of the member agencies had incorporated major portions of the new standards in their operation procedures.

(3) Developed a new classification for coding of area references in intelligence documents and open literature enclosures. The Air Force Minicard operation began experimental use of the scheme in October. CIA expected to begin its use in 1958.

(4) Planned a major revision of CIA's Intelligence Subject Code (ISC) to meet the subject classification requirements of all IAC agencies and directed that the revision be completed during 1958 with the advice and assistance of a classification specialist from the Library of Congress. This program will have direct bearing on the indexing of open literature enclosures.

(5) Established a Standing Group on Inter-Library Services which met frequently during 1957 to identify the reference resources of the community and to improve their accessibility for intelligence research purposes.

3. Projects Planned: In the last quarter of the year, AHIP began discussion of proposals for termination of its ad hoc status and reconstitution under the IAC as a permanent Subcommittee on Documentation with revised terms of reference. These envision permanent transfer of Reference Subcommittee responsibilities from ACFLP to the new organization.

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Chairman

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